

# MEDICAL SCHOOL HOTLINE

## The Role of Global Health in Medical Education and Biomedical Research at the John A. Burns School of Medicine

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*In 1993, the Medical School Hotline was founded by Satoru Izutsu PhD (former vice-dean UH JABSOM), it is a monthly column from the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine and is edited by Kathleen Kihmm Connolly PhD; HJMPH Contributing Editor.*

The John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) Office of Global Health and International Medicine (OGH) is located in the Office of the Dean. OGH works to ensure that all international medical education and international research activities of JABSOM faculty, staff, and students are aligned with the school's mission and in compliance with all accreditation body requirements. The goal is to promote for our students an appreciation of the ways that global issues impact the health of patients and communities in Hawai'i, and to encourage them to gain experience in international health care settings. OGH recognizes that health is a human right, and works to promote an understanding of social justice in medicine. Since January 2018 the office is directed by Gregory G. Maskarinec PhD, assisted by Ms. Paula Uchima. Additionally, Dr. Junji Machi directs University of Hawai'i's (UH) Postgraduate Medical Educational Program at Okinawa Chubu Hospital (OCH) and coordinates various Japanese-affiliated programs at JABSOM, including those involved with the Japan Association for Development of Community Medicine, and the Hawai'i Medical Education Program with Japanese medical schools. Currently, 34 medical institutions in Pacific Rim countries have international student exchange Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with JABSOM.

To demonstrate how wide-ranging global health activities are at JABSOM, what follows is a brief summary of selected activities and achievements in the past academic year.

### Office of Global Health and International Medicine

1. Ten JABSOMMS-4 students participated in one-month reciprocal exchange international observership programs: Japan – Jikei University, Juntendo University, Nippon Medical School, Showa University, and University of Tokyo; and Thailand – Siriraj Hospital/Mahidol University. In addition, thirty-six fifth- and sixth-year undergraduate and graduate medical trainees came from Indonesia, Japan, The Philippines, South Korea, and Thailand to Hawai'i to participate in one-month reciprocal exchange programs.

2. The UH system will join as an institutional member the Consortium of Universities for Global Health for three years beginning in 2019.

3. Due to the volume of JABSOM students that volunteered to be standardized patients for Tokai's medical English workshops, Tokai donated \$2,150 to be shared by the Partnership for Social Justice and the Global Health Interest Groups.

4. Dr. Maskarinec visited Showa University Medical School, Tokyo Women's Medical University, Kanazawa Medical University, Kyorin Faculty of Medicine, Kochi Medical School, and The Jikei University School of Medicine. He delivered lectures on Social Justice in Medicine at Kochi and Kanazawa and recorded a web message to students at the Jikei.

5. University Health Partners has signed a ten-year memorandum of agreement with Noguchi Medical Research, Inc, and Dr. Yoshihisa Asano, to create the "Hedges/Izutsu/Asano Project in Humanity and Empathy in Medicine/ Medical Education at the University of Hawai'i." The agreement provides \$100,000 a year for ten years to fund various events.

6. Eleven consultants from UH or other US institutes visited OCH: ten short-term (one week) consultants, and one long-term (three month) consultant.

### Office of Medical Education

1. In February 2018, six physicians and three visiting faculty from Japanese medical institutions participated in JABSOM's 2.5-day Hawai'i International Clinical Teaching workshop.

2. In March 2018, twelve students from various Japanese medical schools participated in the weeklong Learning Clinical Reasoning Workshop at JABSOM. Sessions included small group reasoning exercises, communication skills training, physical examination skills, standardized patient encounters, manikin experiences and cultural sharing.

3. In May 2018, six fellows from various medical institutions in Okinawa, Japan presented their year-long medical education curriculum project at the Hawai'i-Okinawa Medical Education Fellowship closing session at JABSOM. The fellows were accompanied by the program's "Okinawa Team": five faculty members and one staff member from the University of the Ryukyus, OCH, and Irie Hospital.

4. In June 2018, Dr. Richard Kasuya, Dr. Jill Omori and Ms. Kori-Jo Kochi, comprising the "Hawai'i Team", traveled to the

University of the Ryukyus to present during the Hawai'i-Okinawa Medical Education Fellowship opening session. This session marked the seventh fellowship cohort, comprised of seven fellows from various medical institutions in Okinawa.

5. In August 2018, 27 students from various Japanese medical schools participated in the weeklong Summer Medical Education Institute at JABSOM. Sessions included hands-on Problem Based Learning (PBL), doctor-patient communication exercises, standardized patient encounters, cultural sharing and extensive interaction with JABSOM medical students.

6. Eleven second-year JABSOM medical students completed a two-week summer elective course at one of three medical schools in Japan (Saga University, Osaka Medical College, Kochi Medical School).

7. Dr. Hiroaki Matsumoto from Osaka Medical College visited May 2017 - June 2018. Dr. Matsumoto's visit included co-tutoring in the pre-clinical units, participation in the Fellowship in Medical Education and assisting in international student workshops.

8. The Philippine Medical Association of Hawai'i in conjunction with the University of Santo Tomas Medical School annually continues to offer four second-year medical students the opportunity to learn about the practice of medicine in the Philippines.

### **Hawai'i/Pacific Basin Area Health Education Center (AHEC)**

1. E-DA Hospital in Kaoshiung, Taiwan was offered as a choice for the Pacific Basin Experience. E-DA is a 1000 bed hospital with all the major specialty services located on the same campus with I-Shou University School of Medicine.

2. Four medical students and two pharmacy students traveled to American Samoa, where they shadowed Dr. Erhle at the Veterans Administration clinic.

3. Two students traveled to Guam where they teamed up to write and create a brochure titled, "5 Easy Steps to Help Prevent or Reverse Diabetes." This was part of their research to understand the challenges to eating a healthier diet in Guam. They consulted with local doctors in Guam at both the Veterans Affairs Community Based Outpatient Clinic and outside the VA.

### **SimTiki Simulation Center**

1. Conducted onsite programs at SimTiki with over 130 international participants from Japan, Korea, Thailand, and Iceland.

2. Conducted nine programs at JABSOM/SimTiki for 66 participants.

3. Matriculated two international post graduate physicians (one physician from Japan, one physician from Korea) for our SimTiki International Research Scholar Program.

4. The SimTiki Academy Program had 21 participants from Japan and Thailand.

5. Conducted four courses with the Office of Medical Education for 51 visiting international medical students from Japan and Korea.

6. Monthly international academic Journal Club at SimTiki by video-conference included participants from Japan, Korea, China, and Thailand.

7. SimTiki Director and Associate Director conducted faculty development and pediatric simulation courses at the Nagano Prefectural Hospital Organization's Shinshu Medical Center.

8. Completed the second annual six month program for participants in collaboration with Juntendo University, Tokyo, Japan.

9. Research workshop at Akita University, Akita, Japan.

10. SimTiki Director and Associate Director conducted three programs in Japan for over 60 participants in collaboration with NIPRO Medical Corporation, Jikei University, University of Ryukyus, and Laerdal Japan.

### **Tropical Medicine, Medical Microbiology and Pharmacology**

1. The Northern Pacific Global Health Research Fellows Training Consortium (sponsored by the National Institutes of Health [NIH] Fogarty International Center) - This five-year program, from 2012 to 2017, provided fellowship and scholarship funding for international training in Thailand or Cameroon to JABSOM postdoctoral trainees, JABSOM scholar trainees, international postdoctoral trainees, and international scholar trainees since 2012. The NPGH research projects included clinical studies on dengue virus, malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and qualitative research on transgender populations in Thailand.

2. The Department supports the Minority Health and Health Disparities International Research Training program. Selected undergraduate and graduate students are trained to participate in international research projects in tropical medicine, infectious diseases, and related health sciences. The projects include research on arbovirus, HIV, Hepatitis C, malaria, Ebola, angiostrongyliasis, and tuberculosis.

### **Family Medicine and Community Health**

1. Seiji Yamada, Nash Witten (R2 resident), and Arcelita Imasa (MS4) spent the summer in Majuro, the capital of the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI), to participate in the "TB and Leprosy Free Majuro" project. This project is the world's largest screening and treatment campaign for active and latent tuberculosis (TB) in the contemporary era. The project, which lasted from June through October 2018, is a collaboration between RMI Ministry of Health workers, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and World Health Organization (WHO). See <https://jabsom.hawaii.edu/jabsom-joins-largest-global-effort-against-tb/>.

2. Ongoing implementation continues for the US-affiliated Pacific Islands Pacific Regional Central Cancer Registry for 2017-2022, as well as the Pacific Regional Comprehensive Cancer Control program.

## Native Hawaiian Health

1. The Department of Native Hawaiian Health's (DNHH) international research training program sent four undergraduates to New Zealand for eight weeks.
2. The DNHH hosted Dr. Ngiare Brown in Nov 2017, one of the first Australian aboriginal medical graduates, who has worked extensively on indigenous rights, both nationally and internationally (UN). She is on the Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council and is a Commissioner on the Australian National Mental Health Commission.
3. The Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence collaborated with the Native American Center of Excellence on the planning for the Second Indigenous Faculty Forum held just prior to PRIDoC 2018.
4. The DNHH hosted Dr. Evan Adams, Chief Medical Officer at the First Nations Health Authority, British Columbia, Canada for two lectures to JABSOM medical students, April 2018.
5. Five medical students from the University of Otago, New Zealand were placed on rotations in Hawai'i; four of them were of Maori descent. One worked in Lau Ola Clinic (DNHH), another worked with Dr. Carpenter in University Medicine Faculty Practice (Dept. of Medicine), and the remaining three worked with community doctors, including Dr. Miriam Chang at the *Ko'olauloa* Community Health Center, Dr. Heather Haynes from *Hui No Ke Ola Pono* (Native Hawaiian Health Care System on Maui, and on Moloka'i with Drs. Emmett Aluli and Bill Thomas. Students also spent time with Native Hawaiian traditional healers.

## Geriatric Medicine

1. Geriatrics has created a training video on dysphagia for patients and caregivers. In addition to English, the video has been translated into Ilocano, Samoan, and Chuukese. All are available on YouTube. Our partners at Mountain Pacific Quality Health (MPQH) will help disseminate publicity about these videos to the Pacific Islands area. MPQH has conducted trainings using this curriculum in Hawai'i, Guam, Saipan, and American Samoa (video link <http://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/gwep/>).
2. In October 2017, a team travelled to Yap to provide a Family Caregiver Training train-the-trainer certificate course for the Yap Ministry of Health. This week-long course provided 32 hours of training on caregiving for the elderly and homebound. The workshop integrated the local culture, and included role play, hands-on demonstrations as well as home visits. Twenty-seven participants were trained as instructors. Over 125 Yapese family caregivers received training on proper use of canes and crutches, heart attack and stroke, and reducing caregiver stress and burden.
3. Faculty members participated in *Tausi Feagaiga* (Covenant Keeper), a five-year project in American Samoa funded by the Administration for Native Americans from 2015-2020, to increase the capacity of family and non-family caregivers to care properly for their loved ones in the home. Monthly webinars were conducted to promote distance learning. In February 2018, GWEP faculty provided a 5-day Caregiver Training to 32 participants in American Samoa. The previous participant cohort served as co-trainers.

## Communications Sciences and Disorders (CSD)

1. CSD has established MOUs with Hallym University (South Korea), Kunming Medical University (China), and Taipei Medical University (Taiwan). Dr. Henry Lew delivered presentations in each of the countries this year.
2. CSD graduate student Ting-Ting Hsu received the East West Center Gary S.H. Lin Graduate Degree Fellowship. The 24-month fellowship allows a student who must be from Taiwan, to pursue a master's or doctoral degree at UH.
3. CSD hosted a group of students from Seirei Christopher University (Japan) for a week long cultural exchange and clinical observation program and sponsored a Distinguished Guest Lecture featuring Dr. Isamu Shibamoto from Seirei Christopher.
4. CSD sponsored a Distinguished Guest Lecture, Dr. Isamu Shibamoto from Seirei Christopher University, who presented on "Assessment and Treatment of Dysphagia in Japan."

## Department of Medical Technology

- The Department of Medical Technology has an MOU with the Niigata University of Health and Welfare (Japan) for undergraduate students in Medical Technology and Medical Engineering. Each year, approximately ten students (along with faculty members) visit UH for one week. Students participate in class and lab activities alongside UH Manoa students. Two students from Hawai'i visited Niigata in spring 2018, with their video report link: [https://youtu.be/EsAnPL\\_A4M](https://youtu.be/EsAnPL_A4M).

## Pediatrics

1. Three rotations away are offered to third-year residents: (1) 2-3 weeks at LBJ Tropical Medical Center in American Samoa, functioning as junior attendings at deliveries, consulting in the ER, see patients in clinic, and attending on inpatients in the wards and intensive care units; (2) two-week musculoskeletal elective in cooperation with Shriner's Orthopedics at various outreach locations throughout the Pacific, including American and Western Samoa, Marshall Islands, Fiji, and others; and (3) one month at Lao Friends Hospital for Children in Luang Prabang, Laos.
2. The pediatric residency task force on Global Health, led by Drs. Maya Maxym and Anna-Lena Lueker, has been working to set up two new Global Health rotations, in addition to the existing two to four week elective at LBJ Tropical Medical Center in American Samoa. Two of our recently graduated residents participated in American Samoa in the last academic year under the supervision of UH clinical faculty member, Dr. Lueker.

## Psychiatry

- Dr. Sara Haack implemented a \$79,000 contract to provide behavioral integrated training and services to Kosrae of the Federated States of Micronesia. This involved training in behavioral health topics for twenty health care workers and collaboration on the development of integrated behavioral health services for Kosrae's two community health centers.

## Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health

1. Dr. Corrie Miller, Maternal-Fetal Medicine Fellow, provided ultrasound training to providers in American Samoa in August 2018.
2. Dr. Kareem Khozaim has provided general obstetrics and gynecology services in American Samoa on multiple occasions during 2017-2018.
3. Drs. Shandhini Raidoo, Reni Soon, and Mary Tschann were invited to teach sexual health education in public high schools in American Samoa in May 2018.

## Complementary and Integrative Medicine

1. Collaboration continues in the project Collaborative Big Data Research (CBDRT) with Kinoshita (Kyushu) University, Japan, for multi-national comparisons of cancer screening behaviors and predictors among adults 50 years and over using Health and Retirement Study (HRS) cohort data.
2. The department works with the Department of Genetics and Institute of Medical Biology, Medical School, Szeged University, Hungary in genetic studies of multi-system disorder manifested in cerebral, vascular, renal, ocular, and muscular defects, hereditary angiopathy with nephropathy, aneurysms, muscle cramps (HANAC), and Walker-Warburg Syndrome.
3. CIM department is hosting a visiting scholar, Yu Wang, from Nanjing Traditional Medicine Hospital, China, to work on a project to identify prognostic biomarkers and to assess cancer recurrence risk using tissue specimens from the Hawai'i Tumor Registry at University of Hawai'i Cancer Center.

## Pathology

1. In July 2017 (1 week), annual volunteer work by Dr. Thomas Namiki was conducted in Samoa with a team of specialists from Hawai'i with the Talofa Medical Mission. Dr. Namiki worked with house staff and medical students at National Hospital in Apia, Samoa, to provide specialty care in Samoa.
2. Two Showa University medical students were hosted from Tokyo, Japan for four weeks.
3. Hosted, April 2018, from Shimane University medical students Sachiko Shokei and Kanna Aoyama for medical student shadowing in the Queens Medical Center Department of Pathology.

## Surgery

- Maimona Ghows MD, anesthesiologist and intensivist at Queens Medical Center, Honolulu and Maui Memorial Medical Center, Kahului has worked on Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) for two months each year for nine years. In 2016 she worked as a "Forced from Home" guide in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia and is a guide again this year. She has worked for MSF twice in Nigeria, in Jahun for high-risk obstetrics, in Port Harcourt for orthopedic trauma, and in Haiti in the trauma center in Port au Prince. In 2017 she went to Afghanistan to Khost for an obstetrics assignment, then northern Syria for trauma. She also participated in two missions to the Central African Republic, one to Bossangoa where all types of surgery were performed, and to Bangui for high risk obstetrics.

## Major Issues 2017-2018 for the Office of Global Health

1. Expand the options, logistical support, and financial resources available to JABSOM students, residents, and faculty members to participate in exchange rotations at medical schools and health care facilities throughout the Pacific, the Asian Rim Countries, and elsewhere in the world, with adequate pre-departure orientation and post-elective debriefings.
2. Demonstrate that having UH join the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) advances national understanding of Hawaiian and Micronesian health issues, and prepare panel proposals that address these issues for future CUGH conferences.
3. Foster cooperation with other divisions and departments in the UH system, including public health, nursing, social work, pharmacy, and social science to foster an interdisciplinary community engaged on global health issues, and to increase state preparedness for global infectious and chronic disease epidemics (including diabetes and hypertension) and their potential impact on Hawai'i.
4. Support additional faculty positions and release time for faculty with expertise in global health to accompany students and residents on international rotations.

## Future Goals for 2019

1. Establish a cross-residency didactic curriculum on global health to support a "global health track" for residents, including pre-departure training and post-rotation debriefings. The first session, for the combined Family Medicine and Community Health, Pediatrics, and Psychiatry residents is scheduled for March 2019, while ways to include residents from Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health and Internal Medicine, possibly using recorded sessions, continue to be explored.
2. Engage an interdisciplinary team to compose a white paper for Hawaii's congressional delegation on the anticipated impact on health care in Hawai'i resulting from the end of Compacts of Free Association funding in 2023, coupled with global warming and sea level rise.
3. Support capacity-building at clinical sites in the Pacific, including bidirectional exchanges, shared education, and research partnerships.
4. Increase research opportunities across the UH System on global health topics, including implementation of protocols in low-resource settings across vast geographic areas and studying details of rare tropical diseases and patient outcomes.

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